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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03501 311133Z
ACTION NODS-00

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----------311136Z 043091 /12
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4724

S E C R E T LUSAKA 3501

NODIS

FOR SCHAUFELE FROM EDMONDSON

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA

SUBJ: RICHARD'S RHODESIA SHUTTLE

1. RICHARD'S OUTWARD TRIP: RICHARD ARRIVED LUSAKA YESTERDAY AFTER STOPS IN VALLETTA, CAIRO, KHARTOUM, AND NAIROBI. VALLETTA WAS TO BE REFUELING STOP ONLY BUT MINTHOFF HEARD ABOUT TRIP AND ASKED RICHARD TO COME SEE HIM. PURPOSE BECAME OBVIOUS WHEN MINTHOFF MADE PITCH TO HAVE RHODESIA CONFERENCE RESUME IN MALTA RATHER THAN GENEVA, ARGUING THAT IT WOULD BE LESS EXPENSIVE. RICHARD POLITELY DECLINED IDEA, SAYING SWITCH NOT POSSIBLE. MINTHOFF ALSO SAID MALTA COULD USE SOME OF THE WHITE TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL TALENT THAT WOULD PRESUMABLY BE LEAVING RHODESIA UNDER MAJORITY RULE. HE WOULD NOT WANT TO MAKE THIS INTEREST KNOWN PUBLICLY BUT WOULD BE HAPPY TO TAKE SOME OF THE RHODESIAN WHITES, NOTING THAT POLITICS IS ONE THING BUT COMMERCE IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT. NO SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS WERE INVOLVED AT OTHER STOPS.

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2. RICHARD'S TALK WITH CHONA: RICHARD AND COMPANY SPENT LAST EVENING WITH MARK CHONA TO WHOM THEY OUTLINED THEIR PROPOSAL INHGENERAL TERMS. THEY WERE PLEASED, AND SOMEWHAT SURPRISED, BY CHONA'S POSITIVE RECEPTION OF IT. GRENNAN NOTED A RATHER MORE REALISTIC CHONA IN LUSAKA THAN GENEVA, PARTICULARLY IN HIS WILLINGNESS TO

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SEPARATE HIMSELF FROM THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. CHONA DID NOT OBJECT TO RICHARD'S SUGGESTION THAT THERE SHOULD BE "CERTAIN INHIBITIONS" ON THE VOTING PROVISIONS FOR THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND EVEN SUGGESTED THAT IN PRESENTING THEIR IDEAS TO VORSTER THE BRITISH CAST THEM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN TERMS SIMILAR TO THE FIVE POINTS. RICHARD WILL OF COURSE GO INTO GREATER DETAIL IN DISCUSSION WITH KAUNDA WHOM HE IS SEEING LATER TODAY.

3. CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER: RICHARD AND HIS PARTY CALLED ON ZAMBIA FOREIGN MINISTER MWALE THIS MORNINR BUT MEETING DID NOT EXTEND MUCH BEYOND GENERALITIES AS MWALE HAS NOT BEEN CLOSELY INVOLVED IN RHODESIA CONFERENCE MATTERS. MWALE DID, HOWEVER, REPEAT POINT MADE BY CHONA THAT BRITISH IDEAS SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO VORSTER IN TERMS THAT WOULD SEEM RELATIVELY CLOSE TO THE FIVE POINTS. (REFERENCE TO FIVE POINTS WAS IN BOTH CASES RICHARD'SN NOT NECESSARILY CHONA'S OR MWALE'S EXACT WORDS.)

4. NEXT STOPS. RICHARD WILL FLY TO SALISBURY TOMORROW JANUARY 1 AND AFTER SEEING SMITH ON JANUARY 2 WILL FLY TO PORT ELIZABETH, WITH BRIEF STOP IN PRETORIA TO PICK UP BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT. FROM PORT ELIZABETH PARTY WILL BE TAKEN IN SAG HELICOPTER TO VORSTER'S VACATION HOME ON JANUARY 3. I WILL FLY TO PRETORIA TOMORROW AND MEET PARTY FOR BRIEFING ON RESULTS OF TALKS WITH SMITH DURING ITS STOP AT WATERKLOOF AIRPORT PRETORIA ON JANUARY 2. AS RICHARD WILL RETURN TO PRETORIA AFTER SEEING VORSTER JANUARY 3, I WILL WAIT FOR HIM THERE FOR REPORT ON VORSTER VISIT. LOW

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